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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 32
46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004
INTRODUCED BY
Gail C. Beam

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN COOPERATION WITH
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO HOSPITAL TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO
EXPLORE WAYS TO EXPAND THE UNM CARE AND CARE ONE MODEL OF CARE
STATEWIDE.

WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico hospital operates a
health care program called "UNM care" that serves residents of
New Mexico who have incomes below two hundred thirty-five
percent of the federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, this program utilizes principles of managed care,
including assignment of a primary care physician, cost-sharing
such as copayments and premiums, care management and provision
of both inpatient and outpatient services; and

WHEREAS, those enrolled in the program pay for these

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1 services based on a financial assessment and ability to pay;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the program currently has over twelve thousand
4 people enrolled, and provides over fifty-five thousand visits a
5 year to enrollees in Bernalillo county; and

6 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico hospital is also
7 conducting a pilot disease management program within the UNM
8 care program called "care one", which targets patients at the
9 highest risk of deteriorating clinical status, and for
10 incurring high costs within the near term; and

11 WHEREAS, these high-risk patients represent one percent of
12 the population, but consume about twenty percent of the
13 resources; and

14 WHEREAS, UNM care and care one together make a significant
15 difference in ensuring appropriate, early access to needed
16 health care services and improved health outcomes and
17 potentially reducing the overall cost of providing care to many
18 residents of New Mexico; and

19 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico hospital is
20 conducting a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the care
21 one program that will measure financial impact, utilization of
22 services, quality of care and patient satisfaction and to test
23 the workability of this model of care; and

24 WHEREAS, expansion of this model of care to other
25 hospitals and locations in the state could reduce the number of

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1 uninsured and improve access to health care services and the
2 health status of many New Mexicans;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the human services department, in
5 cooperation with the university of New Mexico hospital, conduct
6 a study to explore ways to expand UNM care and care one
7 statewide; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study analyze the
9 experience of the university of New Mexico hospital with
10 respect to potential benefits of care coordination, a
11 comprehensive team approach, optimal, individualized care for
12 patients and payment policies of these programs; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study explore the ability
14 of other hospitals, independently or in collaboration with the
15 university of New Mexico hospital, to implement such programs;
16 and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings of this study be
18 reported to the interim legislative health and human services
19 committee at its October 2004 meeting; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 sent to the human services department and the university of New
22 Mexico hospital.

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